

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electric discharge machining electrode used for machining the surface of an article by generating electric discharge pulses between the article and the electrode disposed with a clearance kept with respect to the article,  
the electrode comprising a radioactive material contained in or near at least the part of a portion of the electrode in which the electric discharge pulses occur, .
2. An electric discharge machining electrode according to Claim 1, wherein:  
the radioactive material for the electrode is a material obtained by sintering a mixture containing at least a fine powder of tungsten and cobalt,  
neutrons are applied to the material, radioactive cobalt atoms being thereby created to form a radioactive material,  
the radioactive material being used as a negative pole.
3. An electric discharge machining apparatus comprising an electric discharge machining electrode according to Claim 1.
4. An electric discharge machining apparatus comprising an electric discharge machining electrode according to claim 2.